GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:146
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007
DEMAND FOR PILOTS
Chakrabortty Shri Swadesh;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the demand and supply position of pilots in the Indian aviation industry;

(b) whether the demand of pilots has increased manifolds in the country due to sharp increase in the Indian aviation industry;

(c) if so, whether the Government has made any assessment about the requirement of pilots in the near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to meet the demand for pilots in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e):- A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in the replies to the Part (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 146 for 08/03/2007 regarding `Demand for Pilots`.

(a):- As against requirements of 1580 sets of crew equivalent to 3160 professional pilots, which has been worked out on the basis of five sets of crew per aircraft, 2940 pilots are available leaving a shortfall of 7%.

(b):- Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d):- With the expansion of fleet by both Indian Airlines and Air India as well as induction of more aircraft by some of the major private players, the total number of additional aircraft in the next five years is estimated to reach a figure of 500, requiring an additional 5000 pilots at the rate of 5 sets of crew for every one aircraft.

(e):- The Government has taken various steps to reduce the gap between demand and supply of skilled pilots. These include conditionally increasing the age-limit to 65 years for pilots for exercising the privileges of their licences for commercial transport operations under prescribed conditions for pilots, upgradation and modernisation of training infrastructure of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) to enhance its training capacity, setting up of a world class flying training institute at Gondia, Maharashtra and assistance to flying clubs by allocating trainer aircraft through Directorate General of Civil Aviation/Aero Club of India.